

THE WHIG REPUBLICAN

AMOS B. CORWINE,

"LIBERTY AND UNION—NOW AND FOREVER—ONE, AND INSEPARABLE."

[EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR]

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POETRY.



Lines written in Bristol Church-yard.

Stranger! in thy pride of soul,
Canst thou strive with nature's doom?
Or the stream of time control,
Onward sweeping to the tomb?

Do the dreams of lengthen'd years
On thy sinking spirit die—
Mocking all thy hopes and fears,
Child of frail mortality?

Pause thou then and mark the ground,
Sacred to a despot's sway;
Infant age and thought profound
Here must equal tribute pay.

But thou on life's mocking stage,
Seek the joys that earth can give;
Come and scan death's ample page,
Learn for other wealth to live.

Life is but a passing shade,
Pleasure but a transient sigh;
Earthly schemes in vapor fade,
'Less than dust and vanity.'

There's a day that knows no end,
There's a land where troubles cease;
Feud, and strife and discord blend,
All to harmony and peace.

Would'st thou gain that realm of light?
Arm thee for the victor's field;
Nobly wage the Christian fight,
Faith alone thy sword and shield.

Go, and win the heavenly prize,
'Tis a parent's voice on high
Bids celestial pleasures rise,
Boundless as eternity.

Greenwood, Bristol.

My Mother in Heaven.

I bend me o'er thy pallid form,
A spell steals o'er my soul;
I scarce can think that thou'rt gone,
Yet tears unbidden roll.

I hardly thought of thee as one,
Whom Death would make his prize;
I never dared anticipate
What now I realize.

I could not think that eye would close—
Its orbs no more to move;
That tongue be sealed, no more to speak
Thy fond, maternal love.

But thou art gone; although to me
The stroke may seem severe,
I would not call thee back to earth
To pain and trial here.

My thoughts turn in upon myself,
And tears of sorrow flow,
I link of thee in heaven, and weep,
But shed not tears of woe.

What thought consumption's ghastly hand
Thy features hath impressed!
The angel left his traces there
That bore thee to thy rest.

So lingers yet in western skies
The radiance of the sun,
Gilding the summit and the cloud,
E'en when his race is run.

Thy form we soon commit to earth;
Must it to earth be given!
I will not think of thee, entombed,
I'll think of thee, in heaven.

Saturday Courier.

Early wood and won.

BY MRS. ADY.
"Early wood and early won,
Was never repented under the sun."
German Proverb.

Oh! sigh not for the fair young bride,
Gone in her opening bloom,
Far from her kindred, loved and tried,
To glad another home.

Already are the gay brief days
Of girlish triumph gone,
And tranquil happiness repays
The early wood and won.

Fear shall invade her peace no more,
Nor sorrow wound the breast,
Her passing rivalries are o'er,
Her doubts are at rest.

The glittering haunts of worldly state
Love whispers her to shun,
The scenes of purer bliss await
The early wood and won.

Here is a young and guileless heart,
Conquering, fond and warm,
Unseduced by the world's vain mart,
Unlured by passion's storm.

In "hope deferred" she hath not pined,
'Till Hope's sweet course was run,
No chains of old remembrance bind
The early wood and won.

Her smiles and songs have ceased to grace
The halls of festive mirth,
But woman's safer dwelling place
Is by a true one's hearth.

Her hours of duty, joy and love,
In brightness have begun;
Peace be her portion from above,
The early wood and won.

Id.

From the Commercial Advertiser. An Extraordinary Feat.

You have more than once heard of the enterprise of the Hon. J. Hamilton, owner of the popular steamboat Great Britain, and several other boats on Lake Ontario and the river St. Lawrence. This gentleman is extensively engaged in the forwarding business, and is now the oldest steamboat proprietor in this country. He became the owner of the Frontinae, the first boat built on the British side of the St. Lawrence. I well recollect making a trip in this boat twenty years ago, when we were nine days in performing the route from Kingston to Little York, now the city of Toronto—just the number of days that the Britannia was running across the Atlantic from Halifax to Liverpool. Mr. Hamilton has for some years been under the impression that a steamboat might be constructed for the navigation of the St. Lawrence, up those stupendous rapids called the Long Sault, &c., &c.—Those best acquainted with this navigation could not be brought to believe that the obstacles which presented themselves could be overcome. However, the enterprising gentleman of whom I am speaking, determined to make the experiment, and a large boat (larger than the Burlington, Captain Sherman's boat on Lake Champlain) was built under the immediate direction of Mr. Hamilton. The boat, and all its machinery, were completed at the dock-yard at Niagara, and when launched she was named the Ontario, and is perhaps as fine a model as can be found. Unfortunately, the machinery proved too big to be too slight, and when making her first trip from Toronto down the lake, one of her paddle-wheels dropped or broke off, and was never seen any more. At the same time one of her engines was rendered entirely useless. She afterwards made two or three attempts to overcome the rapids, but it was found that the machinery was too slender to accomplish it. She, however, with one wheel, proved that her speed was greater than that of any other boat on these waters.

It was finally determined to make an attempt to transfer her to the line running between Montreal and Quebec. Altho' this attempt was thought by some to be about as feasible as sailing down the Falls of Niagara, Mr. Hamilton was willing to risk his splendid vessel. A crew of bold spirits was selected, the most experienced pilots procured—French Canadians for the Long Sault, and the other rapids to the Cascades, and an Indian, of the Canjowaga tribe, to guide her over the machine. Previous to making the attempt, Captain Lewis Willard, the commander of the boat, a well-tried Yankee navigator, who has had much experience on the St. Lawrence, went down on several rafts of timber, and made all the examinations and preparations which were practicable.

On the morning of the 1st of August the boat left Prescott, and in less than 9 hours she had passed over all those rapids, which are so appalling to the sight, and was safely moored at the wharf in Montreal—as great an exploit as was ever performed by a steamboat of such a class. In conversation with Mr. Willard, he stated to me that at one period his Canadian pilot would gladly have given up the job, and gone on shore—but he behaved nobly. Another individual told me that after the boat had safely made the leap of the Lachine, the Indian, who had guided her through the passage, threw up his cap and made three leaps along the deck, manifesting the greatest triumph at his success.

I enquired of Captain Willard whether any preparation had been made for their preservation in case of accident; he said there had not. There was none, not even an extra plank or spar, as he feared that that had any thing of the kind been seen by the crew the "white feather" might have been shown.

But few persons knew that it was intended to bring the boat down the rapids, and the inhabitants of this city were astonished when they learned the feat which had been performed; and had the boat passed down to Quebec, instead of remaining in Montreal, many would not have believed that the voyage had been made.

Not so bad.

A young lady being dreadfully frightened by a bull that had broken from his pasture, called to some men who were in the neighborhood to "drive away that GENTLEMAN COW!"

A large proportion of Patriots.

In the town of Gloucester, Mass., with a population of 2338, there are 27 revolutionary pensioners; 85 persons between 60 and 70 years of age, of whom 48 are females; 58 between 70 and 80, of whom 42 are females; 28 between 80 and 90, of whom 16 are females; and 2 females between 90 and 100.

The wearing of Rings.

The Romans, who seem to have distinguished themselves above all other people in the wearing of rings, became so delicate and fastidious, that each person commonly had two rings, one thick and heavy for the winter, and a lighter one for summer. By moderate people, one ring was worn on the middle finger. In the course of time, the number of rings worn by each individual was increased; three rings on one hand soon became common, and soon after, one on each finger. One man we are told, wore sixteen on his hand. At one time they used the right hand, at another time the left, then all the fingers in turn; at last the fingers of the left hand were entirely covered with jewelled rings, it being found that the right hand was inconvenient for the purpose. The face of an ancestor, or of a friend or of the reigning emperor, was sometimes sculptured on the rings, and at other times, some public event, such as a victory or a triumph; such a ring was commonly used in sealing letters. Under the sculpture of the stone was often concealed a deadly poison, that the wearer of the ring might by this suicidal method, free himself from the frowns of fortune. This sad and dreadful alternative was chiefly had recourse to under despotic rulers, and in the declining ages of the Roman Empire. The cases of Demosthenes and Hannibal are well known. When a person was dying the ring was taken from his finger. If the dying person delivered it to any one, it betokened the adoption of the person to whom it was delivered, as heir to him who gave it. Sometimes the dying parent delivered it to the eldest son, in token of the dominion of the latter over the family estate. The birth-day ring was only worn on that day, and was a present from friends.

The ornaments of the ancient Britons, like those of the Gauls, consisted in part of rings, made of gold and silver, and, in default of these metals, of brass. They were exceedingly fond of these ornaments, and had them of iron, when nothing better was to be had. On opening some of the barrows, or burying places of some of the ancient Britons, who are so numerous scattered over the downs of South Wiltshire, Sir Richard Colt Hoare found numerous rings and female ornaments, so elegant and so rich as to make it evident that the ancient Britons were not so barbarous as we generally imagine; for they must have had a foreign commerce to enrich them, especially with gold; so that they either imported expensive works of art from abroad, or paid for the production of them at home.

The antiquity of the marriage ring is, in all probability, very great. It was a pledge of an engagement solemnly contracted, and of never ending unity and affection. Its use as a pledge, was at one time more regarded than its value as an ornament; therefore it was made of iron. In the course of time the iron gave way to gold, but women were still not in the habit of wearing rings in the early times of the Christian church, except such as their suitors sent them. The muns of the order of St. Anne, at Rome, show a rude silver ring as the wedding ring of Joachim and Anne, the parents of the Virgin Mary.

We cannot conclude this part of our subject without noticing an ancient form of the marriage ring, termed the grimal ring. The origin of the word "grimal" is to be referred, perhaps, to the Latin genellus, twin or double, and implies the unity of heart which should belong to the married pair. The ring is constructed, therefore, of double hoops, which play one with another, like the links of a chain. Each hoop has one of its sides the other convex, each is twisted around, and each is surmounted by a hand issuing from an embossed knucy work wrist or sleeve, the hand rising somewhat above the circle, and extending in the same direction. The course of the twist in each hoop is made to correspond with that of its counterpart, so that, on bringing together the flat surfaces of the hoops, the latter immediately unite in one ring. On the lower hand, or of which the palm is uppermost, is represented a heart, and as the hoops close, the hands slide into contact, forming, with their ornamented wrists, a head to the whole. The device thus presents a triple emblem of love, fidelity and Union. Such a ring as this was found at Horsleydown, and exhibited in the year 1831, before the Society of Antiquaries.

When the grimal ring was used as the ring of alliance, the lover put his finger through one of the hoops, and his mistress her's through the other; was thus symbolically yoked together; a yoke which neither could be said wholly to wear, one half being allotted to the other. In this use of the grimal may be seen typified "a community of the interests, mutual forbearance, and a participation of authority."

The French are now building 100 gun ships, nine of 30 guns, and 20 frigates

Steamboats burned.

We find the following account of the burning of the steamboats Empress and Monarch in the New Orleans Bulletin:—
Fire—About four o'clock yesterday morning the alarm of fire was given, which proved to be in the steamboat Empress, bound for St. Louis and ready to start. She was lying at the foot of Gravier street—the steamboats Menzi, Oceana &c., lying in the same tier. It was thought advisable to cut the Empress adrift, which was accordingly done. She then drifted with the current and was urged by the wind towards the opposite side of the river, and unfortunately brought up along side of the steamboat Monarch, (recently launched, after having undergone thorough repairs,) and we regret to state, that in a few minutes the Monarch caught fire then communicated to the bulk of the Monarch, which was also consumed; and by the greatest dint of exertion, the Monarch, lying on the stocks at the yard of Messrs. Harrell & Co., was saved, with but little damage to the after cabin. During the confusion on board the Monarch, an explosion of gunpowder took place on board the Empress, from the forward hatch, which materially deterred the efforts to save a portion of the cargo. However, we are happy to state that no injury was sustained by the persons in the immediate vicinity. The hulks were towed down by the ferry boat to the flats opposite the Slaughter House Point, and we earn an attempt will be made to save the engines. We have not learnt how the fire originated.

Love and Politics.

The ladies of Maine are almost without exception, all whigs. In the town of Bristol, a young girl who was engaged to a young fisherman in the island of Monhegan, which is attached to that town, and who was suspected of loco fœcism, told him that she would marry him from her favor unless he voted the whig ticket. The young man, who by the way was just 21, and had consequently never voted before, demurred, but his lady love was inexorable, and very justly insisted that not to be a whig in these times, argued either a lack of intelligence and discernment, or a want of principle and true patriotism. Neither deficiency was to be overlooked by her, and he need never come and see her again, therefore if he did not vote the Harrison ticket. Love and prejudices had a hard contest, but the former triumphed. The young man voted the entire whig ticket and Thorpe, the whig candidate, was chosen by one majority. The damsel is surely deserving the thanks, not only of the young man in whom she thus saved from the sin of loco fœcism, but of every true republican in the United States.—Providence Journal.

Mountain-Tops.

The mountain top is the place for the musings of the religious philosopher.—There, every thing mundane sinks to its due station of inferiority; the air, purified from mists and exhalations, inspires greater activity of life; the world's noise and filth far below—the heavens "shed down their stellar virtue," uncorrupted; the sky, carrying the thoughts with it, expands to a wider arch, and assumes a deeper blue; and by the apparently increased proximity of the celestial luminaries, the solitary musser seems to have made half his journey to the better world. The ancients, either from a knowledge of human nature, or from a certain religious instinct, sought for their consecrated edifices the highest sites. The temple of Capitoline Jove overlooked the whole of the Imperial city; that of Jupiter Ammon is seen from far, the highest peak of the Alban hills; upon the highest point of the snowy Rocmelon, among the Alps, is a chapel, to which the inhabitants of the valley annually, and with toil ascend, to worship God. So it is, that elevation of place has been, at all times, a typical elevation of soul. Certainly, the one tends to produce the other.

The estimated expense of keeping a pack of fox-hounds in England, and hunting four days a week, and occasionally a bye-day is \$20,000 a year. And it may be added that not far from the estates of those who perpetrate such follies, may be found the poor who live on scarcely enough to keep soul and body together.

It is said that sugar to the amount of 40,000 tons, has been imported into England from Calcutta the present year.

A new work, written by the lady of ex-president John Adams, has made its appearance. It is entitled "an introduction to the Court of St. James."

There were 27 preachers in attendance at the annual conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Missouri. Bishop Waugh presided.

The Secretary of the Treasury gives the amount of outstanding Treasury notes on the 1st instant, at \$4,560,680.

The European Powers.

As every one is becoming interested in European movements, we put join the following table of the relative strength of the various powers, in standing armies and vessels of war. We should state that many of these amounts are probably but the nominal statistics of the land forces, and that many of the vessels are laid up in ordinary. With regard to England, we know this to be the case, and that many of her regiments are mere skeletons, preserving their respective names to serve as recruiting depots, while they are counted as full regiments.

	Vessels.	Men.
England,	600	174,000
Russia,	379	660,000
France,	460	230,000
Austria,	4	229,000
Prussia,	6	167,000
Holland,	18	73,000
Spain,	0	70,000
Belgium,	0	50,000
Sweden,	7	40,000
Denmark,	4	38,000
Sardinia,	8	30,000
Naples,	2	30,000
Norway,	0	25,000
Greece,	3	10,000
Italy,	1	9,000
Hanover,	1	16,000
Saxony,	0	40,000
Saxony,	0	12,000
Württemberg,	0	15,000
Portugal, not known.		

It will be perceived that the army of England is exceeded by that of several of the other countries, but it should also be recollected that in many of her colonies, the native militia, and sometimes regular native soldiers, supply the place of a standing force supported by government at home. Public opinion has contributed, in some measure, to diminish her regular army; but she has an almost countless militia to recruit from, in case of need, within her own limits, and hosts of Indian sepoys, and colonial troops, which could immediately be called into action. France has her National Guard as a magazine for future "Imperial Guards." Russia has the largest standing army in proportion to her population, and of course has fewer resources in case of accident. In the above table, the standing army of Italy is probably that of the Pope, as the northern and most populous part of the country is in the hands of Austria.

With respect to the navies, we have no particular data to which we can refer, but believe that Russia has more vessels in active service than either of the other powers. Her military establishment has long been her heaviest expense. She has a vast line of frontier to defend from the incursions of savage tribes; and even were this not the case, her jealousy of France and England, and her rapacious views, would alone be sufficient motives for keeping together her enormous forces. She wants, however one great article, which will prevent her from becoming formidable at a distance from her frontier. She wants MONEY, and had it not been for English gold, her armies could not have reached Paris in the wars of Napoleon.—Boston Post.

An attempt to murder a Wife.

A man named Thomas Taylor has just been tried for assault and battery, with intent to kill his wife, Mary. The principle witness was the complainant, whose testimony amounted to a mere apology for the prisoner's conduct.—She stated that she had been married to him for 29 years, and that she had had by him 19 children, and that during that period he had never ill-treated her, until the occasion of the assault complained of, when he struck her in the face, and attempted to cut her throat with a carving knife. A brother of the complainant, however testified, that the parties had oftentimes before quarreled, and that he had, often expressed his jealousy of her. This statement was also corroborated by other witnesses, and the jury found the prisoner guilty.

Philosophical.—Two distinguished philosophers took shelter under one tree during a heavy shower. After some time one of them complaining that he felt the rain, never mind, replied the other, there are plenty of trees; when this is wet through we will go to another.

AGENTS.

The following gentlemen are respectfully requested to act as Agents for the Whig Republican. Persons having business for us, or who are desirous of subscribing for our paper, will please call on any of these gentlemen at their respective places of residence and it will meet with prompt attention.

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